

The Woodland Spring

By William J. Long

A tremor of brakes where the partridge glides—
Kwit, kwit! and a whirr of wings.

A chipmunk chides at a mink that hides;
A leaf drops down; and the ground-bird sings.

A soft gleam under the bending ferns,
By twisted roots where the woodmouse dwells.

A tinkle of music, stealing along
Through sheen and shadow and veery's song,

Like the tinkle of altar bells.

And loving hemlocks their wide fronds droop,
To shield its face from the sun's warm tide;

While timid wild things, with noiseless feet,
And fear-wide eyes, through the green moss creep—

They drink, and are satisfied.

O song from the earth's great singing heart!
O gleam from unfathomed wells of light!

Content, if only thine overflow
To the simple wood-folk, that come and go,

Can make their dim world bright.

I part the ferns from thy sweet cool face;
To my bending lips is thy full fresh mead.

And, deep within me seems welling up
Some living water, from life's full cup,

To share with a world in need.

A quiver of leaves where the partridge glides—
Kwit, kwit! and a whirr of wings.

The squirrel chides at the mink that hides;
The shadows play; and a wood-thrush sings.

The House Fly Problem.

The Surest Ways to Attack the Pest

By S. F. Aaron

The best means by limiting the number of flies in any locality is by attacking the developmental stages. The ef-

fective control of the fly nuisance is a somewhat difficult matter and outside of cities, where the sanitary conditions may be actually controlled, the extermination of the pest is a practical impossibility. Isolated dwellings, however, and homes in rural communities where there are like-minded people need not, if the proper precautions are taken, be pestered by an excessive number of house flies. Flies will always exist, because it is practically impossible to get rid of every means by which their larvae obtain food. If robbed of the manures, which now constitute their commonest source of maintenance, they often resort to other rotting materials. Moreover, unlike many weak-winged insects flies are powerful travelers and journey many miles, hardly knowing any check to their globe-trotting tendencies. One species is known all over the world. I have seen house flies on the tops of the higher Appalachians, ten miles from the valley cabins, and about our camp in the Southern swamps, as great a distance from human habitation. There will always be a few individuals consequently to take advantage of any open window and to lay eggs for a new generation in any locality whenever an opportunity permits.

A very few flies distributed over the area about the house, outhouses and barn may hardly constitute a nuisance and their normal numbers may be reduced by abolishing or screening their breeding places. Every manure pile, every mass of rotting vegetation mixed with kitchen slop, especially if it contains some farinaceous matter that may lodge in gutter or drain, becomes the breeding ground of hundreds or thousands of house flies.

From Stable to Dining Table.

Each female fly lays more than a hundred eggs, which hatch in a few days into rapid-growing, taper-bodied, white maggot larvae. Thousands of these may be observed when forking over any manure pile. When the larvae are full grown they become hard, oval, reddish-colored, seedlike pupae and in a few days thereafter these crack open and the winged forms emerge. During warm weather the period from egg to adult may last only about ten days. After the new generation has fed liberally, eggs are developed and laid in about a week. There will be from eight to ten generations between late May and the middle of September. The insects winter in all stages of growth, but most



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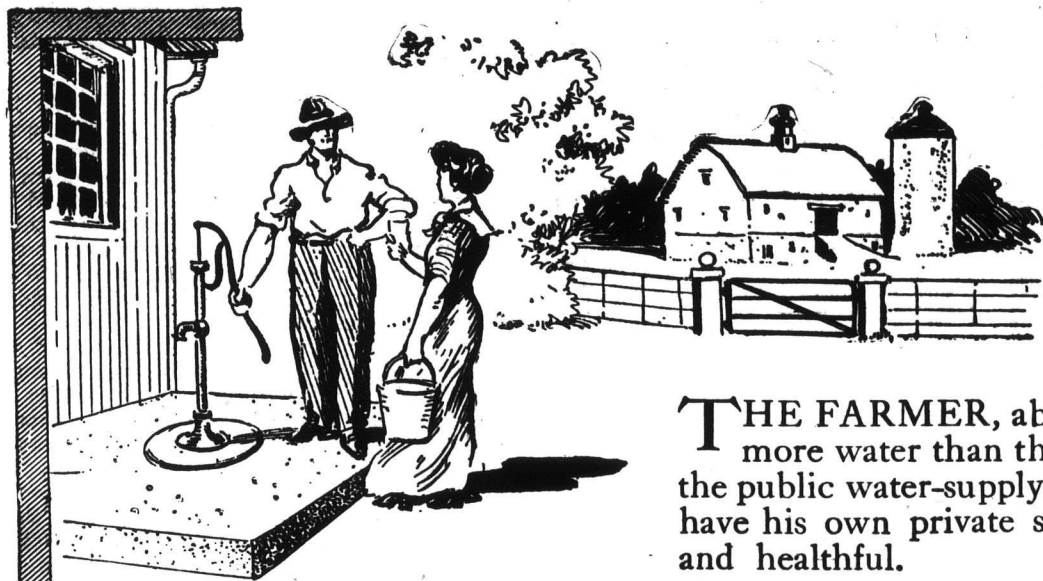
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